

**MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE  
ON  
APPROPRIATIONS**

Thursday, February 8, 2007

11:00 a.m.

Room 352, State Capitol

The House Standing Committee on Appropriations was called to order by the Chair, Representative George Cushingberry, Jr.

Members present: Representatives Cushingberry, Gillard, Bauer, Bennett, Byrnes, Cheeks, Espinoza, Gonzales, Hammel, Hood, Jackson, Lahti, LeBlanc, McDowell, Sak, Alma Smith, Spade, Vagnozzi, Acciavatti, Caswell, Shaffer, Brandenburg, Amos, Booher, Caul, Hansen, Proos, Agema, Moss, Nofs.

Members absent/excused: None.

The committee met jointly with the Senate Standing Committee on Appropriations.

Senate Members present: Senators Jelinek, Pappageorge, Hardiman, Kahn, Garcia, George, Jansen, Brown, McManus, Stamas, Switalski, Anderson, Barcia, Brater, Cherry, Clark, Scott.

Senate Member absent/excused: Senator Cropsey.

Chair Cushingberry and Chair Jelinek gave opening statements to the joint meeting of the Appropriations Committees.

Robert L. Emerson, State Budget Director, presented the Governor's Fiscal Year 2008 Executive Budget Recommendation for the State of Michigan. Mr. Emerson also presented to the committees Executive Order 2007-1. The Executive Order's purpose is to provide reductions in the Fiscal Year 2007 Budget.

Robert J. Kleine, State Treasurer, presented an overview of the Governor's Tax Restructuring Proposal.

Both Mr. Emerson and Mr. Kleine answered questions from Members of both Appropriations Committees.

At 12:05 p.m. Chair Cushingberry called Vice-Chair Gillard to the Chair.

Questions and discussion with the presenters continued.

At 12:10 p.m. Chair Cushingberry resumed the Chair.

Questions and discussion with the presenters continued.

At 12:20 p.m. Chair Cushingberry announced that the joint meeting would be placed at ease for 5 minutes to allow House Members to check in for House session.

At 12:25 p.m. the joint meeting was called back to order by Chair Cushingberry.

Robert W. Swanson, Director of the Department of Labor and Economic Growth, was called on to answer questions for the committee members.

Chair Cushingberry announced that there would be a House Appropriations Committee meeting scheduled for Wednesday, February 14, 2007 at 2:30 p.m.

Patricia L. Caruso, Director of the Department of Corrections, was called on to answer questions for the committee members.

Mr. Emerson and Mr. Kleine continued to answer questions from the committee members.

Chair Cushingberry gave remarks followed by Chair Jelinek.

Closing remarks were also given by Representative Hood and Representative Acciavatti.

There being no further business before the joint committee, Chair Cushingberry adjourned the meeting at 2:30 p.m.

**Representative George Cushingberry, Jr. Chair**\_\_\_\_\_

Doug Simon, Committee Clerk, (517) 373-0015